GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1571
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2002
SILTED IN MAITHON DAMS
BIKASH CHOWDHURY

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Maithon Dams of Damodar Valley Corporation are being heavily silted;

(b) if so, the steps taken/being taken by the Corporation for removing the silted earths from the Dams;

(c) whether the Government proposes to construct another dam in order to hold more water as well as facilitating the removal of silted earth from the existing dam; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA)

(a) : Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) has informed that overallsedimentation in the reservoir is 22.1% as compared to its original capacity of 1955. Approximately 54% of dead storage, 22.4% of live storage and 4.3% of flood storage have been lost due to siltation.

(b) : Various Soil Conservation measures such as afforestation, treatment of land, construction of check dams etc. have been undertaken by DVC in the upper reach ofdam since 1949. However, desiltation of such a big reservoir is not economically viable and such practice is generally not being followed by DVC.

(c) & (d) : DVC has proposed a multipurpose project at Balpahari in the upstream of Maithon Dam. The Dam is basically proposed for augmentation of storage in the system and increasing the life of Maithon dam in respect of sedimentation, along with irrigation, power generation and other objectives. DVC has entrusted the preparation of detailedproject report for the purpose to the Central Water Commission.